What is claimed is:

1. A method of treating a viral infection in a subject, said method comprising treating the subject with a therapeutically effective amount of a sulfur-containing (H^+/K^+)ATPase inhibitor.

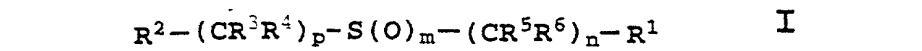
2. The method of Claim 1 wherein the compound contains a sulfoxide.

3. The method of Claim 1 wherein the subject is infected with a DNA virus.

4. The method of Claim 3 wherein the subject is infected with a herpesvirus.

5. A method of treating viral infection in a subject, said method comprising treating the subject with an effective amount of a compound which inhibits an (H^+/K^+)ATPase and a viral protease.

6. A method of treating viral infection in a subject, said method comprising treating said subject with an effective amount of a compound of Formula I



$$R^2-(CR^3R^4)_p-S(O)_m-(CR^5R^6)_n-R^1 \qquad I$$

wherein R^1 is selected from alkoxy, alkoxycarbonyl, dialkylamino, aryl and heteroaryl, wherein R^1 is optionally substituted at a substitutable position with one or more radicals selected from alkoxy, aminoalkoxy optionally substituted on the nitrogen atom with alkyl, cycloalkyl, and aralkyl, hydroxyl, cyano, nitro, alkyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, alkanoyl, cycloalkylalkoxy, carboxyl, acyl, amide, alkylamide, aralkoxy, alkenyloxy, alkynyloxy, sulfonamidyl, dialkylsulfonamidyl, heterocyclic, aralkyl, heteroaralkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, heteroaryl, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, alkenylthio, arylthio, aralkylthio, cycloalkylthio, alkylimino and amino optionally substituted with a radical selected from alkyl, aralkyl, aryl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, acyl, cycloalkenyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl and alkoxyalkyl;

wherein R^2 is heteroaryl, wherein R^2 is optionally substituted at a substitutable position with one or more radicals selected from alkoxy, amino, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, carboxyl, alkanoyl, acyl, alkylamino, arylamino, alkylarylamino, alkanoylamino, alkylaminoalkyl, amide, alkylamide, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, aralkoxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyl, cycloalkylcarbonyl, alkylcarbonylalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, dialkylcarbamoyl, carbamoyloxy, aryloxy, aralkoxy, alkenyloxy, alkynyloxy, acyloxy, cycloalkylalkoxy,

aralkyl, aryl, aroyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, heterocyclic, heteroaralkyl, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylthio, arylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, sulfonamidyl and alkylsulfonamidyl;

wherein each of R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 is independently selected from hydrido, alkyl, aryl and aralkyl; and

wherein each of m, n and p is a number independently selected from 0, 1 and 2;

provided that when R^1 is phenyl, R^2 is not pyridyl or 1-(β-D-ribofuranosyl)benzimidazole when m is 0 or 2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof.

7. Method of Claim 6 wherein R^1 is selected from lower alkoxy, lower alkoxycarbonyl, lower dialkylamino, phenyl, naphthyl, thiazolyl, thiazolinyl, thiadiazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, pyrazolyl, imidazolyl, imidazolinyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, dihydroquinolyl, tetrahydroquinolyl, isoquinolyl, azaquinolyl, azaisoquinolyl, tetrahydroisoquinolyl, thiatetrahydroisoquinolyl, imidazopyridyl, azachromanyl, cycloheptenopyridine, benzimidazolyl, benzothiazolyl, benzoxazinyl, pyridazinyl, purinyl, thienyl, furyl, azaimidazopyridyl, piperidinyl, thienopyridinyl, dihydrothienopyridinyl, carbostyryl, pyrimidyl and pyrazinyl, wherein R^1 is optionally substituted at a substitutable position with one or more radicals selected from lower alkoxy, lower aminoalkoxy optionally substituted on the nitrogen atom with lower alkyl, lower cycloalkyl and lower aralkyl, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, lower alkyl, halo, lower haloalkyl, lower haloalkoxy, lower cycloalkylalkoxy, carboxyl, acyl, lower alkanoyl,

amide, lower alkylamide, lower aralkoxy, lower alkenyloxy, lower alkynyloxy, sulfonamidyl, lower dialkylsulfonamidyl, 5 to 20 membered heterocyclic, lower aralkyl, lower heteroaralkyl, lower alkoxycarbonyl, 5 to 8 membered heteroaryl, lower alkylthio, lower alkylsulfinyl, lower alkylsulfonyl, lower alkenylthio, lower arylthio, lower aralkylthio, lower cycloalkylthio, lower alkylimino and amino optionally substituted with a radical selected from lower alkyl, lower aralkyl, phenyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkynyl, lower cycloalkyl, acyl, lower cycloalkenyl, lower hydroxyalkyl, lower alkoxycarbonyl and lower alkoxyalkyl; wherein R^2 is selected from nitrogen-containing heteroaryl, wherein R^2 is optionally substituted at a substitutable position with one or more radicals selected from lower alkoxy, amino, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, lower alkyl, lower cycloalkyl, halo, lower haloalkyl, lower haloalkoxy, carboxyl, lower alkanoyl, acyl, lower alkylamino, lower arylamino, lower alkylarylamino, lower alkanoylamino, lower alkylaminoalkyl, amide, lower alkylamide, lower alkoxycarbonyl, lower aryloxycarbonyl, lower aralkoxycarbonyl, lower alkylcarbonyl, lower cycloalkylcarbonyl, lower alkylcarbonylalkyl, lower alkoxycarbonylalkyl, lower dialkylcarbamoyl, carbamoyloxy, lower aryloxy, lower aralkoxy, lower alkenyloxy, lower alkynyloxy, acyloxy, lower cycloalkylalkoxy, lower aralkyl, optionally substituted lower aryl, lower aroyl, lower alkoxyalkyl, lower hydroxyalkyl, 5 to 20 membered heterocyclic, lower heteroaralkyl, lower alkylthio, lower alkylsulfinyl, lower alkylsulfonyl, lower arylthio, lower arylsulfinyl, lower arylsulfonyl, sulfonamidyl and lower alkylsulfonamidyl; and wherein each of R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 is independently selected from hydrido,

lower alkyl, phenyl, naphthyl and lower aralkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. Method of Claim 7 wherein R^1 is selected from phenyl, naphthyl, thiazolyl, thiazolinyl, thiadiazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, pyrazolyl, imidazolyl, imidazolinyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, dihydroquinolyl, tetrahydroquinolyl, isoquinolyl, azaquinolyl, azaisoquinolyl, tetrahydroisoquinolyl, thiatetrahydroisoquinolyl, imidazopyridyl, azachromanyl, cycloheptenopyridine, benzimidazolyl, benzothiazolyl, benzoxazinyl, pyridazinyl, purinyl, thienyl, furyl, azaimidazopyridyl, piperidinyl, thienopyridinyl, dihydrothienopyridinyl, carbostyryl, pyrimidyl and pyrazinyl, wherein R^1 is optionally substituted at a substitutable position with one or more radicals selected from methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, isopropoxy, tert-butoxy, aminomethoxy optionally substituted on the nitrogen atom with methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopropyl and benzyl, hydroxyl, amino optionally substituted with a radical selected from methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, benzyl, phenethyl, phenyl, butene, pentene, isopropylene, isobutylene, propargyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, formyl, acetyl, cyclobutenyl, cyclopentenyl, cyclohexenyl, hydroxymethyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, isopropoxycarbonyl, tert-butoxycarbonyl, propoxycarbonyl, n-butoxycarbonyl, isobutoxycarbonyl, pentoxycarbonyl, and methoxymethyl, cyano, nitro, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, dichloromethyl,

trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl, difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl, difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl, dichloropropyl, trifluoromethoxy, cyclohexylmethoxy, carboxyl, formyl, acetyl, propionyl, amide, methylamide, dimethylamide, benzyloxy, sulfonamidyl, dimethylsulfonamidyl, morpholinyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidyl, benzyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, pyridyl, methylthio, methylsulfinyl, methylsulfonyl, phenylthio, benzylthio, cyclohexylthio and methylimino; wherein R^2 is selected from pyridyl, indolyl, imidazolyl, benzimidazolyl, napthoimidazolyl, 1,3-dioxolobenximidazolyl, imidazopyridyl, imidazoquinolinyl, dihydroimidazoquinolinyl, cycloheptoimidazolyl, cyclooxaundecanobenzimidazolyl, benzoxazolyl, benzothiazolyl, indolyl, thienoimidazolyl, pyridopyrazinyl, quinolinyl, quinoxalinyl, quinazolinyl, quinazolinonyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, oxazolyl, purinyl, indenoimidazolyl, thiadiazolyl, thiazolylpyridyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyranobenzimidazolyl, thiopyranbenzimidazolyl, indolbenzimidazole, tetrahydroimidazoquinolinyl, wherein R^2 is optionally substituted at a substitutable position with one or more radicals selected from methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, isopropoxy, tert-butoxy, amino, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl, difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl, difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl,

dichloropropyl, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoroethoxy, carboxyl, formyl, acetyl, propionyl, butyryl, N-methylamino, N-ethylamino, N-propylamino, N-butylamino, N-tert-butylamino, N-pentylamino, N-hexylamino, N,N-dimethylamino, phenylamino, N-methyl-N-phenylamino, methylaminomethyl, amide, N-methylamide, N,N-dimethylamide, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, isopropoxycarbonyl, tert-butoxycarbonyl, propoxycarbonyl, n-butoxycarbonyl, isobutoxycarbonyl, pentoxycarbonyl, phenoxycarbonyl, benzyloxycarbonyl, methylcarbonyl, cyclohexylcarbonyl, methylcarbonylmethyl, methoxycarbonylmethyl, N,N-dimethylcarbamoyl, carbamoyloxy, phenoxy, benzoxy, benzyl, phenethyl, phenyl, benzoyl, methoxymethyl, hydroxymethyl, morpholinyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidyl, methylthio, ethylthio, methylsulfinyl, ethylsulfinyl, methylsulfonyl, phenylthio, phenylsulfinyl, phenylsulfonyl, sulfonamidyl, methylsulfonamidyl and N,N-dimethylsulfonamidyl; and wherein each of R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 is independently selected from hydrido, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, phenyl and benzyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. Method of Claim 8 selected from compounds, and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, of the group selected from:

[2-[(2-N-isobutyl-N-methylamino)-benzyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[[3-methylpyridin-2-ylmethyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-methyl-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazole;

5-chloro-2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-trifluoromethyl-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazole;

5-ethoxy-2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-4-methyl-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-methyl-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5,6-dimethoxy-1H-benzimidazole;

5-chloro-2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-trifluoromethyl-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[[(2,3-dimethylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[[(3-methylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[[(2-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[[(3-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl] sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[[(3-(4-nitrophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[[[3-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl]methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

5-methyl-2-[[[3-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl]methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

5-chloro-2-[[[3-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl]methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[[[3-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl]methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

5-chloro-2-[[[3-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl]methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

4-[8-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl]benzoate;

2-[[[3-(4-chlorophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl]methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[[[3-(4-methylphenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl]methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-5-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-((n-butoxycarbonylmethyl)sulfinyl)thiazolo(5,4-b)pyridine;

5-chloro-2-((2-ethoxyethyl)sulfinyl)benzothiazole;

4,6-dimethyl-2-(((imidazo(1,2-a)pyridin-2-yl)methyl)thio)-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[3-methyl-4-(2-(N-benzyl-N-cyclohexylamino)-ethoxy)pyridyl]methylthio-1H-benzimidazole;

ethyl 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)thiomethyl]-4-methyl-amino-5-pyrimidine carboxylate;

9-(benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl-4-methoxy-2,3-

cycloheptenopyridine;
2-(5-fluoro-2-(4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)-phenylsulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;
5-difluoromethoxy-2-(((3,4-dimethoxy-2-pyridinyl)methyl)sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;
2-(((4-difluoromethoxy-3-methyl-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;
2-[4(3-methoxypropoxy)-3-methylpyridine-2-yl]methylsulfinyl-1H-imidazole;
2-((6-azachroman-5-ylmethyl)sulfinyl)-benzimidazole;
5-carbomethoxy-6-methyl-2-(((3,4-dimethoxy-2-pyridinyl)methyl)sulfinyl-1H-benzimidazole;
5-carbomethoxy-6-methyl-2-(((3,4-dimethoxy-2-pyridinyl)methyl)sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl-methyl ethyl carbonate;
2-((3-methyl-4-(2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy)-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;
4-fluoro-2-(((4-methoxy-2-pyridinyl)methyl)sulfinyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl-methyl-ethylcarbonate;
2-[3-methyl-4-(1-benzyl-4-piperidyl)oxy-2-pyridyl]methylthio-1H-benzimidazole;
2-(3-methyl-4-(2-(N-methyl-N-(4-methyl-benzyl)amino)ethoxy)-2-pyridyl)methylsulfonyl-1H-benzimidazole;
2-(4-methoxy-6-methyl-2-pyrimidinyl)methylthio-1H-benzimidazole;
2-[2-[N-4-(3-fluorophenyl)-butyl-N-methyl]aminoethyl]thio-(1H)-benzimidazole;
5-chloro-2-(3,4-dimethoxy-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;
5-fluoro-2-(4-cyclopropylmethoxy-2-pyridylmethyl-sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;
4-fluoro-2-(4-methoxy-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;
2-(((4-methoxy-3,5-dimethyl-2-pyridinyl)-methyl)-

sulfinyl)-5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazole;
5-hydroxymethyl-2-((3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methylthio-1H-benzimidazole;
2-(4-ethylthio-3-methylpyridin-2-yl-methyl)sulfinyl-benzimidazole;
2-(((4-(2-benzyloxyethoxy)-3-methyl-2-pyridyl)methylthio)benzimidazole;
2-[[2-[N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-N-methylamino]-5-methoxy]benzylsulfinyl]benzimidazole;
2-[2-(3,5-dimethyl-4-ethoxy)pyridylmethylsulfinyl]-5-methoxy-imidazo(4,5-b)pyridine;
2-(5-benzyl-4-chloro-6-methyl-2-pyrimidinyl)methylthio-1H-benzimidazole;
2,2-difluoro-6-((5-benzyloxy-4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methylthio)-5H-(1,3)-dioxolo(4,5-f)benzimidazole;
5-carboethoxy-6-methyl-2-(((3-methyl-2-pyridyl)methyl)sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;
5-(2-benzimidazolylsulfinylmethyl)-3,4-dihydro-4-methyl-2H-1,4-benzoxazine;
2-(3-methyl-4-(2-(N-benzyl-N-methylamino)ethoxy-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl-1H-benzimidazole;
2-(3-methyl-4-(2-(1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-2-yl)-ethoxy)-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl-1H-benzimidazole;
2-[1-(3,5-dimethylpyrazolyl)]methylthiobenzimidazole;
2-(3-chloro-4-methoxy-2-picolylthio)-5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazole;
2-(4-(2-ethoxyethoxy)-3-methyl-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl-1H-benzimidazole;
2-(3-methylthieno(2,3-c)pyridin-7-yl)methylsulfinyl)-benzimidazole;
2-(2-dimethylamino-5-methoxybenzylsulfinyl)-5-methoxy-benzimidazole;
2-(2-dimethylamino-5-methylbenzylsulfinyl)-5-methoxybenzimidazole;

2-[4-(2,3,5-trimethyl)pyridylthio]-5-methoxybenzimidazole;

2-[(2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-methylimidazol-4-yl)methylthio]benzimidazole;

2-(5-hydroxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinylmethyl)-N,N-dimethylbenzenamine;

2-((6-methoxyisoquinolin-1-yl)methylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;

3-(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)thiomethylcarbostyril;

5-methoxy-2-(4-dimethylamino-5-fluoro-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;

2-(2-dimethylaminobenzyl-sulfinyl)-5-cyclopropylmethoxybenzimidazole;

2-(3,5-dimethyl-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-5-cyclopropylmethoxy-benzimidazole;

2-[2-(N-cyclohexyl-N-methylamino)benzylsulfonyl]benzimidazole;

8-(5-fluoro-6-methoxy-2-benzimidazolyl)sulfinylmethyl-1-ethyl-4-(N-methyl-N-allyl)amino-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoline;

2-(2-benzyloxycarbonylaminobenzylthio)benzimidazole;

2-(2-benzimidazolylmethylthio)pyrimidine;

2-(2-dimethylaminobenzylsulfinyl)imidazo[4,5-b]-pyridine;

2-(2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)quinoxaline;

2-methyl-3-(2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)pyrido[2,3-b]pyrazine;

5-acetyl-2-((2-dimethylaminobenzyl)sulfinyl)benzimidazole;

2-((3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl)-5-fluoro-1H-benzimidazole;

2-(3-pyridylmethylthio)-5-methoxybenzimidazole;

2-(2-methylaminobenzylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;

5-methoxy-2-(2-dimethylaminobenzylsulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;

2-(3,4-dimethoxypyrid-2-ylmethylsulfinyl)-5-trifluoromethyl-benzimidazole;

5-methoxy-2-(4-piperidino-2-pyrimidinylmethylsulfinyl)-(1H)-benzimidazole;

2-[2-(4-benzyloxy)-pyridylmethylsulfinyl] benzimidazole;

4-allyloxy-8-(2-benzimidazolyl)thio-3-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroquinoline;

2-[2-(4-methoxy-5-n-pentyl)-pyridylmethylthio] benzimidazole;

2-(5-bromo-4-piperidino-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-5-methoxy-(1H)-benzimidazole;

2-((3,5-dimethyl-4-morpholinopyrid-2-yl) methylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;

2-((2-pyridinylmethyl)sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole-1-methanol;

2-((3,4-dihydro-2H-thieno(3,2-c)pyridinylmethyl) thio)-1H-benzimidazole-1-methanol;

2-(4-isopropoxy-2-pyridyl) methylsulfinylbenzimidazole;

2-((4-fluorobenzyloxy-3-methyl-2-pyridyl) methylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;

2-(2-aminobenzylsulfinyl)-benzimidazole;

N,N-dimethyl-2-(1H-benzimidazol-2-yl-sulfinylmethyl)benzenamine;

2-[(4,5-dimethoxy-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl]-5-trifluoromethoxy-1H-benzimidazole;

2,2-difluoro-6-[(4,5-dimethoxy-2-pyridyl) methylthio]-5H-1,3-dioxolo-(4,5-f)benzimidazole;

2-((4-morpholinyl-3-ethylpyridin-2-ylmethyl) sulfinyl)-5-trifluoromethylbenzimidazole;

2-((4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl)-5-trifluoromethoxy-1H-benzimidazole;

5-cyclopropylcarbonyl-2-((4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methyl-sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[2-(3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy)-pyridylmethyl sulfinyl]-(5-chloro)-benzimidazole;

2-[2-(4,5-dimethyl)-pyridylmethylsulfinyl]-(5-acetyl-6-methyl)-benzimidazole;

1-(p-chlorobenzoyl)-2-(β-morpholinylmethyl-sulfinyl)benzimidazole;

2,3-dihydro-2-(2-pyridyl)thiazolo[3,2-a]benzimidazole-1-oxide;

2-[(2-pyridylmethyl)thio]-1H-naphth[2,3-d]imidazole;

1,5,6,7-tetrahydro-2-(5-methyl-2-pyridyl-methyl)-thio)indeno(5,6-d)imidazole;

4-methyl-2-(5-methyl-2-pyridyl-methylthio)-1H-naphtho(2,3-d)imidazole ;

2,2-difluoro-6-(4-methoxy-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-5H-1,3-dioxolo[4,5-f]benzimidazole;

2-benzylthio-(4H)-imidazo(4,5,1-ij)quinoline;

2-(2-chlorophenylmethylthio)-5,6-dihydro-(4H)-imidazo(4,5,1-ij)quinoline;

5,6-dihydro-2-(2-pyridylmethylthio)-4H-imidazo(4,5,1- ij)quinoline;

5,6-dihydro-2-(2-(3,5-dimethylpyridyl) methylsulfinyl)-4H-imidazo;

5,7-dihydro-2-(((4-methoxy-3-methyl-2-pyridyl) methyl)sulfinyl)-5,5,7,7-tetramethylindeno (5,6-d)imidazol-6(1H)-one;

2-(2-pyridylmethylthio)-6-isopropyl-cycloheptoimidazole;

2-[2-(3,5-dimethyl)pyridylmethylsulfinyl]5-fluoro-benzoxazole;

3-[(4-dimethylamino-2-pyridyl)methylthio]indole;

5-methyl-2-(2-pyridylmethylthio-3H-thieno(2,3-d) imidazole;

2-(2-(3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy)pyridylmethylsulfinyl) -7-imidazo(4,5-b)pyridine;

2-(2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)quinoxaline;

2-[(2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl]thieno[3,4-d]-imidazole;

2-(((3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methyl)thio)-4,5-diphenyloxazole;

3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-6-(((5-phenyl-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)-thio)methyl)pyridine;

2-(((3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methyl)sulfinyl)-4,5-diphenylimidazole;

5-(((4,5-diphenyl-2-oxazolyl)sulfinyl)methyl)-2,2-dimethyl-8-methyl-4H-1,3-dioxino(4,5-c)pyridine;

5-(((3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methyl)sulfinyl)-1-methyltetrazole;

6-benzoylamino-7-chloro-2-(((3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)-methyl)thio)benzothiazole;

2-[[(3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)-methyl]thio]quinoline;

2-[2-(3,5-dimethyl)pyridylmethylsulfinyl]-5-methoxy-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine;

5-(4,5-dihydro-2-oxazolyl)-2-((3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methylthio)-1H-benzimidazole;

2-(2-dimethylaminobenzylsulfinyl)-5-methoxyimidazo[4,5-b]-pyridine;

3-phenyl-2-(2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-4(3H)-quinazolinone;

4-amino-2-(2-pyridylmethylthio)quinazoline;

2-(4-morpholinyl-2-pyrimidinylmethylthio)thieno(3,4-d)imidazole;

8-[2'-(N,N-dimethylanily)methylthio]purine;

2-[2'-(N,N-dimethylanily)methylthio]thieno-(3,4-d)-imidazole;

2-(4-methoxy-2-picolinylthio)-1H-thieno[3,4-d]imidazole;

2-(2-pyridylmethyl)thio-8H-indeno(1,2-d)imidazole;

2-(4-methoxy-5-chloro-2-picolythio)-1H-thieno(3,4-d)imidazole;

2-[2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)benzylthio]
cycloheptoimidazole;
2-(2-acetylaminophenyl)methylthio
cycloheptoimidazole;
2-amino-5-(2-(2-pyridyl)ethylthio)-1,3,4-
thiadiazole;
2-gernaylthio-benzimidazole;
2-(2-chlorobenzylthio)-8,8-dimethyl-6-oxo-5,6,7,8-
tetrahydro-3H-imidazo[4,5-g]quinoline;
8-(2-pyrimidinyl-sulfinyl)quinoline;
2-((3-methyl-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl)pyrano(2,3-f)
benzimidazole;
2-[(2-isobutylamino)benzylsufinyl]imidazole;
ethyl 2-((1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinylmethyl)-4-
dimethylamino-5-pyrimidinecarboxylate;
2-((2-ethoxyethyl)sulfinyl)-4-(3-pyridyl)thiazole;
2-[2-(2-propynylamino)benzylsulfinyl]imidazole;
2-(2-(2-methoxyethylamino)benzylsulfinyl)imidazole;
1-(2-pyridyl)-2-(3-dimethylamino)benzylsulfinyl)
imidazole;
2-(2-methylaminobenzylthio)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-
benzimidazole;
4,5-diphenyl-2-(2-pyridylmethyl)-thioimidazole;
4-phenyl-2-(2-pyridylmethyl)thioimidazole;
4,5-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(2-
thienylthio)imidazole;
2-(3-chloro-2-pyridinylthiomethyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-
imidazole;
1-methyl-2-(2-pyrimidinylthiomethyl)-5-nitro-
imidazole;
1-methyl-2-(2-pyridylsulfonylmethyl)-5-
nitroimidazole;
1-methyl-2-(5-bromo-2-pyridylthiomethyl)-5-nitro-
imidazole;
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]
benzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]N,N-dimethylbenzenamine;

N-[2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]phenyl] acetamide;

2-[[(4-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl] benzenamine;

2-[[(5,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]benzenamine;

2-[[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl] methyl]benzenamine;

methyl 2-[[(2-aminophenyl)methyl]sulfinyl]-5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazole-6-carboxylate;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-5-chlorobenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-methoxybenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-6-methoxybenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-3-methylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-6-methylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4,6-dimethylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N-methylbenzenamine;

2-[[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;

2-[[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-6-methylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-ethylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-6-ethylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-methoxy-3,5-dimethylbenzenamine;

2-[[(5-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methyl]benzenamine;

2-[[(5-chloro-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methyl]benzenamine;

2-[[(5-ethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methyl]benzenamine;

2-[[[(5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]sulfinyl]methyl]benzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-butylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-5,6-dimethylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-3,6-dimethylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-chloro-6-methylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfiny)methyl]-4-chloro-6-methoxy-3-methylbenzenamine;

2-[[(5-ethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;

2-[[(5-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methyl]-5,6-dimethylbenzenamine;

2-[[[(5-(trifluoromethy)1-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]sulfinyl]-3,6-dimethylbenzenamine;

2-[[[(5-(trifluoromethyl)1-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]sulfinyl]methyl]-6-methoxybenzenamine;

methyl 2-amino-3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]benzoate;

ethyl 4-amino-3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]benzoate;

ethyl 4-amino-3-[[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]benzoate;

2-[[5,6-dimethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-fluorobenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-3,4,5-trimethylbenzenamine;

2-[[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-4-methoxy-3,5-dimethylbenzenamine;

3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]benzenamine;

3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N,N-dimethyl-2-pyridinamine;

6-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[[(4-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[[(5-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[[(5-chloro-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[[[5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[[(5-ethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

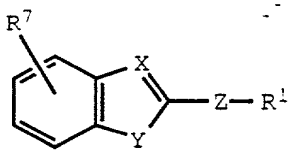
6-[[(5,6-dimethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[[(5,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[[(4,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[[[5-(hydroxymethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
6-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N-(2,2-dimethylpropyl)-2-pyridinamine;
6-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N-ethyl-2-pyridinamine; and
5-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine.

10. A method of treating viral infection in a subject, said method comprising treating said subject with an effective amount of a compound of Formula II



II

wherein X is selected from CH or N;
wherein Y is selected from CH_2, NR^8, O and S;
wherein Z is selected from $-S(O)_m-$, $-(CR^3R^4)_pS(O)_m-$ and $-S(O)_m(CR^5R^6)_n-$;
wherein each of m, n and p is a number independently selected from 0, 1 and 2;
wherein R^1 is selected from aryl and heteroaryl, wherein R^1 is optionally substituted at a substitutable position with one or more radicals selected from alkoxy, aminoalkoxy optionally substituted on the nitrogen atom with alkyl, cycloalkyl and aralkyl, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, alkyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, cycloalkylalkoxy, carboxyl, acyl, alkanoyl, amide, alkylamide, aralkoxy, alkenyloxy, alkynyloxy, sulfonamido, dialkylsulfonamido, heterocyclic, aralkyl, heteroaralkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, heteroaryl, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl,

alkenylthio, arylthio, aralkylthio, cycloalkylthio, alkylimino and amino optionally substituted with a radical selected from alkyl, aralkyl, aryl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, acyl, cycloalkenyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl and alkoxyalkyl;

wherein each of R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 is independently selected from hydrido, alkyl, aryl and aralkyl;

wherein R^7 is one or more radicals selected from alkoxy, amino, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, halo, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, carboxyl, alkanoyl, acyl, alkylamino, arylamino, alkylarylamino, alkanoylamino, alkylaminoalkyl, amide, alkylamide, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, aralkoxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyl, cycloalkylcarbonyl, alkylcarbonylalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, dialkylcarbamoyl, carbamoyloxy, aryloxy, aralkoxy, alkenyloxy, alkynyloxy, acyloxy, cycloalkylalkoxy, aralkyl, aryl, aroyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, heterocyclic, heteroaralkyl, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylthio, arylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, sulfonamido and alkylsulfonamido; or wherein R^5 and R^8 taken together form a ring; and

wherein R^8 is selected from hydrido, alkyl, alkenyl, hydroxyalkyl, acyl, alkoxyalkyl, aryl, aryloxyalkyl, alkylthioalkyl, aralkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, amide, alkanoyl, alkylcarbamoyl and alkylsulfonyl; provided that when m is 0, R^8 is not 1-(β-D-ribofuranosyl)benzimidazole;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11. Method of Claim 10 wherein R^1 is selected from phenyl, naphthyl, thiazolyl, thiazolinyl, thiadiazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl,

pyrazolyl, imidazolyl, imidazolinyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, dihydroquinolyl, tetrahydroquinolyl, isoquinolyl, azaquinolyl, azaisoquinolyl, tetrahydroisoquinolyl, thiatetrahydroisoquinolyl, imidazopyridyl, azachromanyl, cycloheptenopyridine, benzimidazolyl, benzothiazolyl, benzoxazinyl, pyridazinyl, purinyl, thienyl, furyl, azaimidazopyridyl, piperidyl, thienopyridinyl, dihydrothienopyridinyl, carbostyryl, pyrimidyl and pyrazinyl, wherein R^1 is optionally substituted at a substitutable position with one or more radicals selected from lower alkoxy, lower aminoalkoxy optionally substituted on the nitrogen atom with lower alkyl, lower cycloalkyl and lower aralkyl, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, lower alkyl, halo, lower haloalkyl, lower haloalkoxy, lower cycloalkylalkoxy, carboxyl, acyl, lower alkanoyl, amide, lower alkylamide, lower aralkoxy, lower alkenyloxy, lower alkynyloxy, sulfonamido, lower dialkylsulfonamido, 5 to 20 membered heterocyclic, lower aralkyl, lower heteroaralkyl, lower alkoxycarbonyl, 5 to 8 membered heteroaryl, lower alkylthio, lower alkylsulfinyl, lower alkylsulfonyl, lower alkenylthio, lower arylthio, lower aralkylthio, lower cycloalkylthio, lower alkylimino and amino optionally substituted with a radical selected from lower alkyl, lower aralkyl, phenyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkynyl, lower cycloalkyl, acyl, lower cycloalkenyl, lower hydroxyalkyl, lower alkoxycarbonyl and lower alkoxyalkyl, wherein each of R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 is independently selected from hydrido, lower alkyl, phenyl, naphthyl and lower aralkyl; wherein R^7 is one or more radicals selected from lower alkoxy, amino, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, lower alkyl, lower cycloalkyl, halo, lower haloalkyl, lower haloalkoxy, carboxyl, lower alkanoyl, acyl, lower

alkylamino, lower arylamino, lower alkylarylamino, lower alkanoylamino, lower alkylaminoalkyl, amide, lower alkylamide, lower alkoxycarbonyl, lower aryloxycarbonyl, lower aralkoxycarbonyl, lower alkylcarbonyl, lower cycloalkylcarbonyl, lower alkylcarbonylalkyl, lower alkoxycarbonylalkyl, lower dialkylcarbamoyl, carbamoyloxy, lower aryloxy, lower aralkoxy, lower alkenyloxy, lower alkynyloxy, acyloxy, lower cycloalkylalkoxy, lower aralkyl, optionally substituted lower aryl, lower aroyl, lower alkoxyalkyl, lower hydroxyalkyl, 5 to 20 membered heterocyclic, lower heteroaralkyl, lower alkylthio, lower alkylsulfinyl, lower alkylsulfonyl, lower arylthio, lower arylsulfinyl, lower arylsulfonyl, sulfonamido and lower alkylsulfonamido; or wherein R^5 and R^8 taken together form a ring; and wherein R^8 is selected from hydrido, lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower hydroxyalkyl, acyl, lower alkoxyalkyl, phenyl, naphthyl, lower aryloxyalkyl, lower alkylthioalkyl, lower aralkyl, lower alkoxycarbonyl, amide, lower alkanoyl, lower alkylcarbamoyl and lower alkylsulfonyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12. Method of Claim 11 wherein R^1 is optionally substituted at a substitutable position with one or more radicals selected from methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, isopropoxy, tert-butoxy, aminomethoxy optionally substituted on the nitrogen atom with methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopropyl and benzyl, amino optionally substituted with a radical selected from methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, benzyl, phenethyl, phenyl, butene, pentene, isopropylene, isobutylene, propargyl,

cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, formyl, acetyl, cyclobutenyl, cyclopentenyl, cyclohexenyl, hydroxymethyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, isopropoxycarbonyl, tert-butoxycarbonyl, propoxycarbonyl, n-butoxycarbonyl, isobutoxycarbonyl, pentoxycarbonyl, and methoxymethyl, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl, difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl, difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl, dichloropropyl, trifluoromethoxy, cyclohexylmethoxy, carboxyl, formyl, acetyl, propionyl, amide, methylamide, dimethylamide, benzyloxy, sulfonamido, dimethylsulfonamido, morpholinyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidyl, benzyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, pyridyl, methylthio, methylsulfinyl, methylsulfonyl, phenylthio, benzylthio, cyclohexylthio and methylimino; wherein each of R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 is independently selected from hydrido, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, phenyl and benzyl; wherein R^7 is one or more radicals selected from methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, isopropoxy, tert-butoxy, amino, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl, difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl, difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl, dichloropropyl, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoroethoxy,

carboxyl, formyl, acetyl, propionyl, butyryl, N-methylamino, N-ethylamino, N-propylamino, N-butylamino, N-tert-butylamino, N-pentylamino, N-hexylamino, N,N-dimethylamino, phenylamino, N-methy-N-phenylamino, methylaminomethyl, amide, N-methylamide, N,N-dimethylamide, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, isopropoxycarbonyl, tert-butoxycarbonyl, propoxycarbonyl, n-butoxycarbonyl, isobutoxycarbonyl, pentoxycarbonyl, phenoxycarbonyl, benzyloxycarbonyl, methylcarbonyl, cyclohexylcarbonyl, methylcarbonylmethyl, methoxycarbonylmethyl, N,N-dimethylcarbamoyl, carbamoyloxy, phenoxy, benzoxy, benzyl, phenethyl, phenyl, benzoyl, methoxymethyl, hydroxymethyl, morpholinyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidyl, methylthio, ethylthio, methylsulfinyl, ethylsulfinyl, methylsulfonyl, phenylthio, phenylsulfinyl, phenylsulfonyl, sulfonamido, methylsulfonamido and N,N-dimethylsulfonamido; or wherein R^5 and R^8 taken together form a ring; and wherein R^8 is selected from hydrido, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, butene, pentene, isopropylene, isobutylene, hydroxymethyl, phenyl, naphthyl, phenoxymethyl, methylthiomethyl, benzyl, phenethyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, isopropoxycarbonyl, tert-butoxycarbonyl, propoxycarbonyl, n-butoxycarbonyl, isobutoxycarbonyl, pentoxycarbonyl, methoxymethyl, amide, formyl, acetyl, propionyl, butyryl, methylcarbamoyl and methylsulfonyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

13. Method of Claim 12 selected from compounds, and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, of the group selected from:

2-[[3-methylpyridin-2-ylmethyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-methyl-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazole;

5-chloro-2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-trifluoromethyl-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazole;

5-ethoxy-2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-4-methyl-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-methyl-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5,6-dimethoxy-1H-benzimidazole;

5-chloro-2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-5-trifluoromethyl-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[[(2,3-dimethylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[[(3-methylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl] sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[[(2-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl] sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[[(3-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl] sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[[(3-(4-nitrophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl)methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[[[3-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl]methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

5-methyl-2-[[[3-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl]methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

5-chloro-2-[[[3-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl]methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[[[3-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl]methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

5-chloro-2-[[[3-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl]methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

4-[8-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl]benzoate;

2-[[[3-(4-chlorophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl]methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[[[3-(4-methylphenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-8-yl]methyl]sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[(imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-5-ylmethyl)sulfinyl]-1H-benzimidazole;

4,6-dimethyl-2-(((imidazo(1,2-a)pyridin-2-yl)methyl)thio)-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[3-methyl-4-(2-(N-benzyl-N-cyclohexylamino)-ethoxy)pyridyl]methylthio-1H-benzimidazole;

ethyl 2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)thiomethyl]-4-methyl-amino-5-pyrimidine carboxylate;

2-(5-fluoro-2-(4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)-phenylsulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;

5-difluoromethoxy-2-(((3,4-dimethoxy-2-pyridinyl)methyl)sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;

2-(((4-difluoromethoxy-3-methyl-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;

2-((6-azachroman-5-ylmethyl)sulfinyl)-benzimidazole;

5-carbomethoxy-6-methyl-2-(((3,4-dimethoxy-2-pyridinyl)methyl)sulfinyl-1H-benzimidazole;

5-carbomethoxy-6-methyl-2-(((3,4-dimethoxy-2-pyridinyl)methyl)sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl-methyl ethyl carbonate;

2-((3-methyl-4-(2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy)-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;

4-fluoro-2-(((4-methoxy-2-pyridinyl)methyl)sulfinyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl-methyl-ethylcarbonate;

2-[3-methyl-4-(1-benzyl-4-piperidyl)oxy-2-pyridyl]methylthio-1H-benzimidazole;

2-(3-methyl-4-(2-(N-methyl-N-(4-methyl-benzyl)amino)ethoxy)-2-pyridyl)methylsulfonyl-1H-benzimidazole;

2-(4-methoxy-6-methyl-2-pyrimidinyl)methylthio-1H-benzimidazole;

5-chloro-2-(3,4-dimethoxy-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;

5-fluoro-2-(4-cyclopropylmethoxy-2-pyridylmethyl-sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;

4-fluoro-2-(4-methoxy-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;

2-(((4-methoxy-3,5-dimethyl-2-pyridyl)-methyl)-sulfinyl)-5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazole;

5-hydroxymethyl-2-((3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methylthio-1H-benzimidazole;

2-(4-ethylthio-3-methylpyrid-2-yl-methyl)sulfinyl-benzimidazole;

2-(((4-(2-benzyloxyethoxy)-3-methyl-2-pyridyl) methylthio)benzimidazole;

2-[[2-[N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-N-methylamino]-5-methoxy] benzylsulfinyl]benzimidazole;

2-(5-benzyl-4-chloro-6-methyl-2-pyrimidinyl) methylthio-1H-benzimidazole;

5-carboethoxy-6-methyl-2-(((3-methyl-2-pyridyl)methyl)sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;

5-(2-benzimidazolylsulfinylmethyl)-3,4-dihydro-4-methyl-2H-1,4-benzoxazine;

2-(3-methyl-4-(2-(N-benzyl-N-methylamino)ethoxy-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl-1H-benzimidazole;

2-(3-methyl-4-(2-(1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-2-yl)-ethoxy)-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl-1H-benzimidazole;

2-[1-(3,5-dimethylpyrazolyl)] methylthiobenzimidazole;

2-(3-chloro-4-methoxy-2-picolylthio)-5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazole;

2-(4-(2-ethoxyethoxy)-3-methyl-2-pyridyl) methylsulfinyl-1H-benzimidazole;

2-(3-methylthieno(2,3-c)pyridin-7-yl) methylsulfinyl)-benzimidazole;

2-(2-dimethylamino-5-methoxybenzylsulfinyl)-5-methoxy-benzimidazole;

2-(2-dimethylamino-5-methylbenzylsulfinyl)-5-methoxybenzimidazole;

2-[4-(2,3,5-trimethyl)pyridylthio]-5-methoxybenzimidazole;

2-[(2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-methylimidazol-4-yl)methylthio]benzimidazole;

2-(5-hydroxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinylmethyl)-N,N-dimethylbenzenamine;

2-((6-methoxyisoquinolin-1-yl)methylsulfinyl) benzimidazole;

3-(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)thiomethylcarbostyril;

5-methoxy-2-(4-dimethylamino-5-fluoro-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;

2-(2-dimethylaminobenzylsulfinyl)-5-cyclopropylmethoxybenzimidazole;

2-(3,5-dimethyl-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-5-cyclopropylmethoxy-benzimidazole;

2-[2-(N-cyclohexyl-N-methylamino)benzylsulfonyl] benzimidazole;

8-(5-fluoro-6-methoxy-2-benzimidazolyl) sulfinylmethyl-1-ethyl-4-(N-methyl-N-allyl)amino-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoline;

2-(2-benzyloxycarbonylaminobenzylthio) benzimidazole;

2-(2-benzimidazolylmethylthio)pyrimidine;

5-acetyl-2-((2-dimethylaminobenzyl)sulfinyl) benzimidazole;

2-((3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-2-pyridyl) methylsulfinyl)-5-fluoro-1H-benzimidazole;

2-(3-pyridylmethylthio)-5-methoxybenzimidazole;

2-(2-methylaminobenzylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;

5-methoxy-2-(2-dimethylaminobenzylsulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;

2-(3,4-dimethoxypyrid-2-ylmethylsulfinyl)-5-trifluoromethyl-benzimidazole;

5-methoxy-2-(4-piperidino-2-pyrimidinylmethylsulfinyl)-(1H)-benzimidazole;

2-[2-(4-benzyloxy)-pyridylmethylsulfinyl] benzimidazole;

4-allyloxy-8-(2-benzimidazolyl)thio-3-methyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroquinoline;

2-[2-(4-methoxy-5-n-pentyl)-pyridylmethylthio] benzimidazole;

2-(5-bromo-4-piperidino-2-pyridylmethylsulfinyl)-5-methoxy-(1H)-benzimidazole;

2-((3,5-dimethyl-4-morpholinopyrid-2-yl) methylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;

2-((2-pyridinylmethyl)sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole-1-

methanol;
2-((3,4-dihydro-2H-thieno(3,2-c)pyridinylmethyl) thio)-1H-benzimidazole-1-methanol;
2-(4-isopropoxy-2-pyridyl) methylsulfinylbenzimidazole;
2-((4-fluorobenzyloxy-3-methyl-2-pyridyl) methylsulfinyl)benzimidazole;
2-(2-aminobenzylsulfinyl)-benzimidazole;
N,N-dimethyl-2-(1H-benzimidazol-2-yl-sulfinylmethyl)benzenamine;
2-[(4,5-dimethoxy-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl]-5-trifluoromethoxy-1H-benzimidazole;
2-((4-morpholinyl-3-ethylpyridin-2-ylmethyl) sulfinyl)-5-trifluoromethylbenzimidazole;
2-((4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methylsulfinyl)-5-trifluoromethoxy-1H-benzimidazole;
5-cyclopropylcarbonyl-2-((4-methoxy-2-pyridyl) methyl-sulfinyl)-1H-benzimidazole;
2-[2-(3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy)-pyridyl methylsulfinyl]-(5-chloro)-benzimidazole;
2-[2-(4,5-dimethyl)-pyridylmethylsulfinyl]-(5-acetyl-6-methyl)-benzimidazole;
2-[2-(3,5-dimethyl)pyridylmethylsulfinyl]5-fluoro-benzoxazole;
3-[(4-dimethylamino-2-pyridyl)methylthio]indole;
6-benzoylamino-7-chloro-2-(((3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)-methyl)thio)benzothiazole;
5-(4,5-dihydro-2-oxazolyl)-2-((3,5-dimethyl-4-methoxy-2-pyridyl)methylthio)-1H-benzimidazole;
2-gernaylthio-benzimidazole;
ethyl 2-((1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinylmethyl)-4-dimethylamino-5-pyrimidinecarboxylate;
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl) methyl]benzenamine;
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]N,N-dimethylbenzenamine;

N-[2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]phenyl] acetamide;

2-[[(4-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl] benzenamine;

2-[[(5,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]benzenamine;

2-[[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl] methyl]benzenamine;

methyl 2-[[(2-aminophenyl)methyl]sulfinyl]-5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazole-6-carboxylate;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-5-chlorobenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-methoxybenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-6-methoxybenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-3-methylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-6-methylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4,6-dimethylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N-methylbenzenamine;

2-[[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl] methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;

2-[[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl] methyl]-6-methylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-ethylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-6-ethylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-methoxy-3,5-dimethylbenzenamine;

2-[[(5-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methyl]benzenamine;

2-[[(5-chloro-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methyl]benzenamine;

2-[[(5-ethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methyl]benzenamine;

2-[[[(5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]sulfinyl]methyl]benzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-butylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-5,6-dimethylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-3,6-dimethylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-chloro-6-methylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfiny)methyl]-4-chloro-6-methoxy-3-methylbenzenamine;

2-[[(5-ethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;

2-[[(5-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methyl]-5,6-dimethylbenzenamine;

2-[[[(5-(trifluoromethy)1-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]sulfinyl]-3,6-dimethylbenzenamine;

2-[[[(5-(trifluoromethyl)1-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]sulfinyl]methyl]-6-methoxybenzenamine;

methyl 2-amino-3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]benzoate;

ethyl 4-amino-3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]benzoate;

ethyl 4-amino-3-[[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]benzoate;

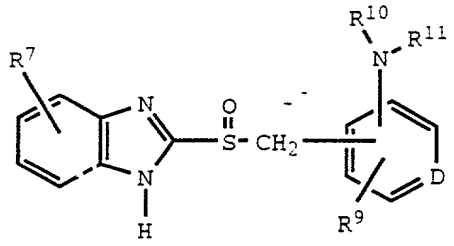
2-[[5,6-dimethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-fluorobenzenamine;
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-3,4,5-trimethylbenzenamine;
2-[[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-4-methoxy-3,5-dimethylbenzenamine;
3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]benzenamine;
3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N,N-dimethyl-2-pyridinamine;
6-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
6-[[(4-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
6-[[(5-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
6-[[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
6-[[(5-chloro-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
6-[[[5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
6-[[(5-ethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
6-[[(5,6-dimethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
6-[[(5,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
6-[[(4,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;
6-[[[5-(hydroxymethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N-(2,2-dimethylpropyl)-2-pyridinamine;

6-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N-ethyl-2-pyridinamine; and

5-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine.

14. A method of inhibiting a viral protease, said method comprising treating said subject with an effective amount of a compound of Formula III



III

wherein D is N or CH;

wherein R^7 is one or more radicals selected from hydrido, alkoxy, amino, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, alkyl, halo, haloalkyl, carboxyl, alkanoyl, nitro, amino, alkylamino, amide, alkylamide, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl and alkylsulfonyl;

wherein R^9 is one or more radicals selected from hydrido, alkoxy, amino, alkyl, halo, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, haloalkyl, carboxyl, alkanoyl, nitro, amide, alkylamide, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl and alkylsulfonyl; and

wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are independently selected from hydrido and alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15. Method of Claim 14 wherein R^7 is one or more radicals selected from hydrido, lower

alkoxy, amino, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, lower alkyl, halo, lower haloalkyl, carboxyl, lower alkanoyl, lower alkylamino, amide, lower alkylamide, lower alkoxycarbonyl, lower alkylthio, lower alkylsulfinyl and lower alkylsulfonyl; wherein R^9 is one or more radicals selected from hydrido, lower alkoxy, amino, lower alkyl, halo, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, lower haloalkyl, carboxyl, lower alkanoyl, lower alkylamino, amide, lower alkylamide, lower alkoxycarbonyl, lower alkylthio, lower alkylsulfinyl and lower alkylsulfonyl; and wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are independently selected from hydrido and lower alkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. Method of Claim 15 wherein R^7 is one or more radicals selected from hydrido, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, isopropoxy, tert-butoxy, amino, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl, difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl, difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl, dichloropropyl, carboxyl, formyl, acetyl, propionyl, N-methylamino, N-ethylamino, N-propylamino, N-butylamino, N-tert-butylamino, N-pentylamino, N-hexylamino, N,N-dimethylamino, amide, N-methylamide, N,N-dimethylamide, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, isopropoxycarbonyl, tert-butoxycarbonyl, propoxycarbonyl, n-butycarbonyl, isobutoxycarbonyl, pentoxycarbonyl, methylthio, methylsulfinyl and methylsulfonyl;

wherein R^9 is one or more radicals selected from hydrido, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy,

butoxy, isopropoxy, tert-butoxy, amino, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, dichloromethyl, trichloromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl, difluorochloromethyl, dichlorofluoromethyl, difluoroethyl, difluoropropyl, dichloroethyl, dichloropropyl, carboxyl, formyl, acetyl, propionyl, N-methylamino, N-ethylamino, N-propylamino, N-butylamino, N-tert-butylamino, N-pentylamino, N-hexylamino, N,N-dimethylamino, amide, N-methylamide, N,N-dimethylamide, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, isopropoxycarbonyl, tert-butoxycarbonyl, propoxycarbonyl, n-butoxycarbonyl, isobutoxycarbonyl, pentoxycarbonyl, methylthio, methylsulfinyl and methylsulfonyl; and

wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are independently selected from hydrido, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, isopropyl, isobutyl and tert-butyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

17. Method of Claim 16 selected from compounds, and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, of the group selected from:

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl) methyl]benzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]N,N-dimethylbenzenamine;

N-[2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]phenyl] acetamide;

2-[[(4-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl] benzenamine;

2-[[(5,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]benzenamine;
2-[[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]benzenamine;
methyl 2-[[(2-aminophenyl)methyl]sulfinyl]-5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazole-6-carboxylate;
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-chlorobenzenamine;
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-5-chlorobenzenamine;
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-methoxybenzenamine;
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-6-methoxybenzenamine;
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-3-methylbenzenamine;
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-6-methylbenzenamine;
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4,6-dimethylbenzenamine;
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N-methylbenzenamine;
2-[[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;
2-[[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-6-methylbenzenamine;
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-ethylbenzenamine;
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-6-ethylbenzenamine;
2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-methoxy-3,5-dimethylbenzenamine;
2-[[(5-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methyl]benzenamine;

2-[[(5-chloro-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methyl]benzenamine;

2-[[(5-ethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methyl]benzenamine;

2-[[[(5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]sulfinyl]methyl]benzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-butylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-5,6-dimethylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-3,6-dimethylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-chloro-6-methylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfiny)methyl]-4-chloro-6-methoxy-3-methylbenzenamine;

2-[[(5-ethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;

2-[[(5-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methyl]-5,6-dimethylbenzenamine;

2-[[[(5-(trifluoromethy)1-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]sulfinyl]-3,6-dimethylbenzenamine;

2-[[[(5-(trifluoromethy)1-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]sulfinyl]methyl]-6-methoxybenzenamine;

methyl2-amino-3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]benzoate;

ethyl 4-amino-3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]benzoate;

ethyl 4-amino-3-[[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]benzoate;

2-[[5,6-dimethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]methyl]-4-methylbenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-4-fluorobenzenamine;

2-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-3,4,5-trimethylbenzenamine;

2-[[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]m ethyl]-4-methoxy-3,5-dimethylbenzenamine;

3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]benzenamine;

3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

3-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N,N-dimethyl-2-pyridinamine;

6-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[[(4-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[[(5-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[[(5-methoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfinyl]-methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[[(5-chloro-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[[[5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[[(5-ethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[[(5,6-dimethoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[[(5,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[[(4,6-dimethyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[[[5-(hydroxymethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]sulfinyl]methyl]-2-pyridinamine;

6-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N-(2,2-dimethylpropyl)-2-pyridinamine;

6-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-N-ethyl-2-pyridinamine; and

5-[(1H-benzimidazol-2-ylsulfinyl)methyl]-2-pyridinamine.

18. Method of Claim 14 wherein the viral protease is a herpesvirus protease.

19. Method of Claim 18 wherein the viral protease is a CMV protease.

20. Method of Claim 19 wherein the viral protease is a CMV protease, encoded by U_L80.